

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-06

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /007 W

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R 171420Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5923

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 2646

FOR EUR/EX AND EUR/EE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP RO

SUBJ: INCREASE IN SOCIAL SECURITY TAXES

REF: STATE 122223

1. OUTCOME OF NATO CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING ON JULY 16 WAS THAT SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS WILL BE MADE TO GOR BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 1973 (AND RETROACTIVELY TO JANUARY 1, 1973). DIPLOMATIC NOTE WILL BE SENT TO THE MFA INCORPORATING CHANGES PER STATE 124695.

2. BASED ON PREVIOUS DEPARTMENT ASSURANCES, INCLUDING REFTEL, EMBASSY NOW NEEDS ADDITIONAL INCREASE TO FY 73 PROGRAM AND SHARED ALLOTMENTS OF \$4,900 TO PAY RETROACTIVE PORTION OF TAXES FOR FY 73. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST IN ORDER FOR PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY AUGUST 1. INCREASE/DECREASE STATEMENT FOR FY 73 BEING POUCHED JULY 18TH.

3. FYI: GERMAN AMBASSADOR WICKERT ADVISED US THAT FOREIGN MIN SCHEEL DID NOT RAISE QUESTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY TAX DURING CEAUSESCU STATE VISIT DESPITE EARLIER PLANS TO DO SO. HOWEVER, GERMAN LABOR MINISTER DID RAISE QUESTION WITH GOR LABOR MINISTER PETRE LUPU IN BUCHAREST SEVERAL DAYS AGO, BUT PRIMARILY AS EXAMPLE OF HOW NOT TO ATTRACT FOREIGN BUSINESSES
(SOCIAL SECURITY LAW WAS

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ORIGINATED BY LUPU'S MINISTRY). ALTHOUGH LUPU TOOK NOTE

OF REPRESENTATIONS, NEITHER THESE REPRESENTATIONS NOR NOTES
BEING TRANSMITTED BY VARIOUS EMBASSIES WILL LEAD TO AMEND-
MENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY LAW; AT BEST THIS EXERCISE OF
DELAY AND PROTEST MAY MAKE SIMILAR DISCRIMINATORY ACTIONS
BY GOR IN FUTURE SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY.

MARTENS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUCHAR02646
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730730/aaaaavme.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 122223
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <29-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INCREASE IN SOCIAL SECURITY TAXES
TAGS: AFSP, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005